

B-3224 - B-3233  
926-900 Light St. (West side)  
Baltimore, Md.  
Private access

1845-1855

This group of houses located along the west side of the 900 block of Light St. were originally all built as two story plus attic, two bay wide brick houses with gable roofs, much like the houses to the west along Hamburg and Henrietta Streets. Many, however, have since been enlarged to a full three stories in height and now have shed roofs and bracketed cornices. Most currently serve a mixed commercial/residential use. The houses located in the southern half of the block, south of Wheeling St. (916-926 Light St.) were built by John S. Gittings as part of his development of the unit block of Hamburg St.; those houses located to the north of Wheeling St. (900-914 Light St.) were built by a variety of individual owners.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

926 Light St.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Maryland

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

\_\_DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_SITE

\_\_OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

\_\_PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

\_\_UNOCCUPIED

\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_NO

**PRESENT USE**

\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_MUSEUM

☒ COMMERCIAL

\_\_PARK

\_\_EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_MILITARY

\_\_OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

Telephone #:

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

Liber #:

Folio #:

STATE

Maryland 21202

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story plus attic brick house with gable roof was built in the 1840's and formed part of a group of such houses extending along this side of Light St. The first floor area has been converted into a store-front, along with the first floor area of 924 Light St. and both have been given new Colonial-style decorative treatments.

The house is two and a half stories in height, 14' wide, and occupies a lot 80' deep. The house is two rooms deep and there is a two story high, one bay deep rear addition that runs the full width of the house, followed by a two story high, two bay deep addition and a two story high, one bay deep frame addition. These rear additions extend back along the north side of the lot. At some more recent date the south side of the lot was filled in with a one story high brick addition which opens into the older addition. Then a full width one story high, two bay deep brick section was added to the rear of the previous additions, extending the depth of the house to the end of the lot. The house is constructed in running bond but the facade has been given a new brick facing. The low-pitched gable roof has a two-tier brick cornice. There is a double hooded chimney located along both the front and rear roof gable on the north side of the house. There is also a double rectangular chimney located at the west end of the original rear addition.

The second and third floor window openings have new vertical stretcher lintels and stone sills. The window openings are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. The first floor area has been converted into a Colonial-style store-front, with a centrally located multi-light glass and panel door set beneath a single light transom, flanked by two multi-light windows with molded wooden lintels. The doorway has an elaborate Colonial-style doorframe consisting of a steeply pitched pediment supported by Doric pilasters, framing an arched entryway with paneled interior walls. The arch beneath the pediment has a wooden keystone.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

B-3224

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1845

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John S. Gittings

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is significant as being representative of a large group of houses built in the 1840's and 1850's in the area immediately surrounding the Cross St. Market (founded 1846). The houses were designed to provide a combination of commercial and residential space for the influx of small shop-keepers who were moving into the area to serve the needs of the growing community. The first floor area served as a store-front and the family lived on the floors above. Many of these houses have separate street entrances to the private family quarters.

This houses was built by John S. Gittings as part of his development of the area bounded by the south side of Wheeling St. and the north side of Hamburg St., between Charles and Light Sts. It shows a similar two story plus attic design to the neighboring rows of houses Gittings built on Hamburg and Wheeling Sts. but is slightly deeper than those houses. Originally, all of the houses lining this side of Light St., between 916 and 926 Light St. were identical two story plus attic type houses.

The first owner of this house, a Wensil Kingsley, operated a grocery and liquor store at this location in the 1850's and 1860's, and later, in the 1870's, a real estate brokerage firm.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Baltimore City Directory, 1849-50, 1853-54, 1860, 1870, 1876

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14' x 80'

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles5/79

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

REVIEW SHEET

B-3224

Historic Preservation Certification Application—Significance

Property: 926 Light Street Project No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic District: Federal Hill Historic District  
9/12/89 date initial application received by State \_\_\_\_\_ date(s) additional information requested by State

\_\_\_\_\_ date complete information received by State \_\_\_\_\_

4/4/90 date of this transmittal to NPS \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection of property by State staff? ☒ no \_\_\_\_\_ yes date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

☒ There is adequate documentation enclosed to evaluate the historic character and integrity of this property.

\_\_\_\_\_ There is insufficient documentation to evaluate the property adequately. The application is missing the following items:

Reasonable efforts have been made to obtain this information. Copies of the information requests are enclosed.

NUMBER

1

This property involves:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| _____ Extensive loss of historic fabric   | _____ Obscured or covered elevation(s)              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <del>Substantial</del> alterations over time <u>(ground floor, interior and exterior)</u> | _____ Moved property                                |
| _____ Preliminary determination of listing  | _____ State recommendation inconsistent with NR     |
| _____ for district  | _____ documentation                                 |
| _____ for individual property   | _____ Recommendation different from the applicant's |
| _____ Significance less than 50 years old   | _____ request                                       |

NUMBER

2

Complete item(s) below as appropriate.

(1) The documentation on file with the National Register cites the period(s) of significance of this historic district as 19th c - 20th c

(2) The property ☒ contributes \_\_\_\_\_ does not contribute to the historic significance of this registered historic district in:

☒ location ☒ design ☒ setting ☒ materials ☒ workmanship ☒ feeling \_\_\_\_\_ association

\_\_\_\_\_ Property is mentioned in the NR or State or local district documentation in Section \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_.

(3) For properties less than 50 years old:

- \_\_\_\_\_ the historical merits of the district (the periods and areas of significance) are documented in the National Register form or district documentation on file as less than 50 years old, justifying the certification of this property's contribution.
- \_\_\_\_\_ the exceptional historical or architectural significance of this property as described in the National Register form or district documentation on file justifies its certification as contributing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ there is insufficient justification to consider this property as contributing to the district for its individual exceptional architectural or historical significance or the significance of the district does not extend to the last 50 years.

(4) For preliminary determinations:

A. The status of the nomination for the property/historic district:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Nomination has already been submitted to State review board, and nomination will be forwarded to the NPS within \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Draft nomination is enclosed.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nomination was submitted to the NPS on \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nomination will be submitted to the State review board within twelve months.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nomination process likely will be completed within thirty months.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other, explain:

B. Evaluation of the property:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Property is individually eligible and meets National Register Criteria for Evaluation
- \_\_\_\_\_ Property is located within a potential registered district that meets National Register
- Criteria for Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ D
- Criteria Considerations: \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_ G

(5) The property is located in a registered district, is outside the period(s) or area(s) of significance as documented in the NR form and:

- \_\_\_\_\_ appears to contribute to the expanded significance of the district. Enclosed is the revised nomination documentation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ does not appear to contribute to the period(s) or area(s) of significance of the district.



NUMBER  
3

Describe and evaluate the physical characteristics of the property, its integrity, and its significance within the context of the historic district (or individually for preliminary determinations of individual listings).

is three story, 2 bay late Federal style corner rowhouse was built circa 1850. It is typical of the early residential and commercial buildings of Federal Hill, an architecturally diverse neighborhood which has played an important role in Baltimore's growth and development since the eighteenth century.

The gable roof building has two rear additions, dating from ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> early part of the 20th century. Substantial alterations were undertaken in the 1950s, both on the interior and exterior of the ground floor. However, the ~~original~~ <sup>original</sup> floor plan remains, as well as <sup>nearly all</sup> interior features on the upper floors. Though altered on the ground level, the exterior retains sufficient integrity in terms of material, setting, fenestration and orientation to contribute to the streetscape.

NUMBER  
4

State Official Recommendation:

- This application for the above-named property has been reviewed by Elizabeth Harrold, a professionally qualified architect, architectural historian, or historian on my staff.
- ☒ The property is included within the boundaries of a registered historic district, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.
- ☐ The property is included within the boundaries of a registered historic district, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.
- ☐ The property does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
- ☐ The property appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be nominated.
- ☐ The property does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will not be nominated.
- ☐ The property appears to contribute to the significance of a:
- ☐ potential historic district which appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be nominated.
- ☐ registered historic district but is outside the period(s) or areas of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS. Revised nomination or district documentation is enclosed.
- ☐ The property should be denied a preliminary determination that it could qualify as a certified historic structure.
- ☐ Insufficient documentation has been provided to evaluate the structure.

☐ Detailed NPS review recommended ☐ Precedent-setting case ☐ Forwarded without recommendation

Date

State Official Signature

☐ See attachments:

NPS Comments:

Date

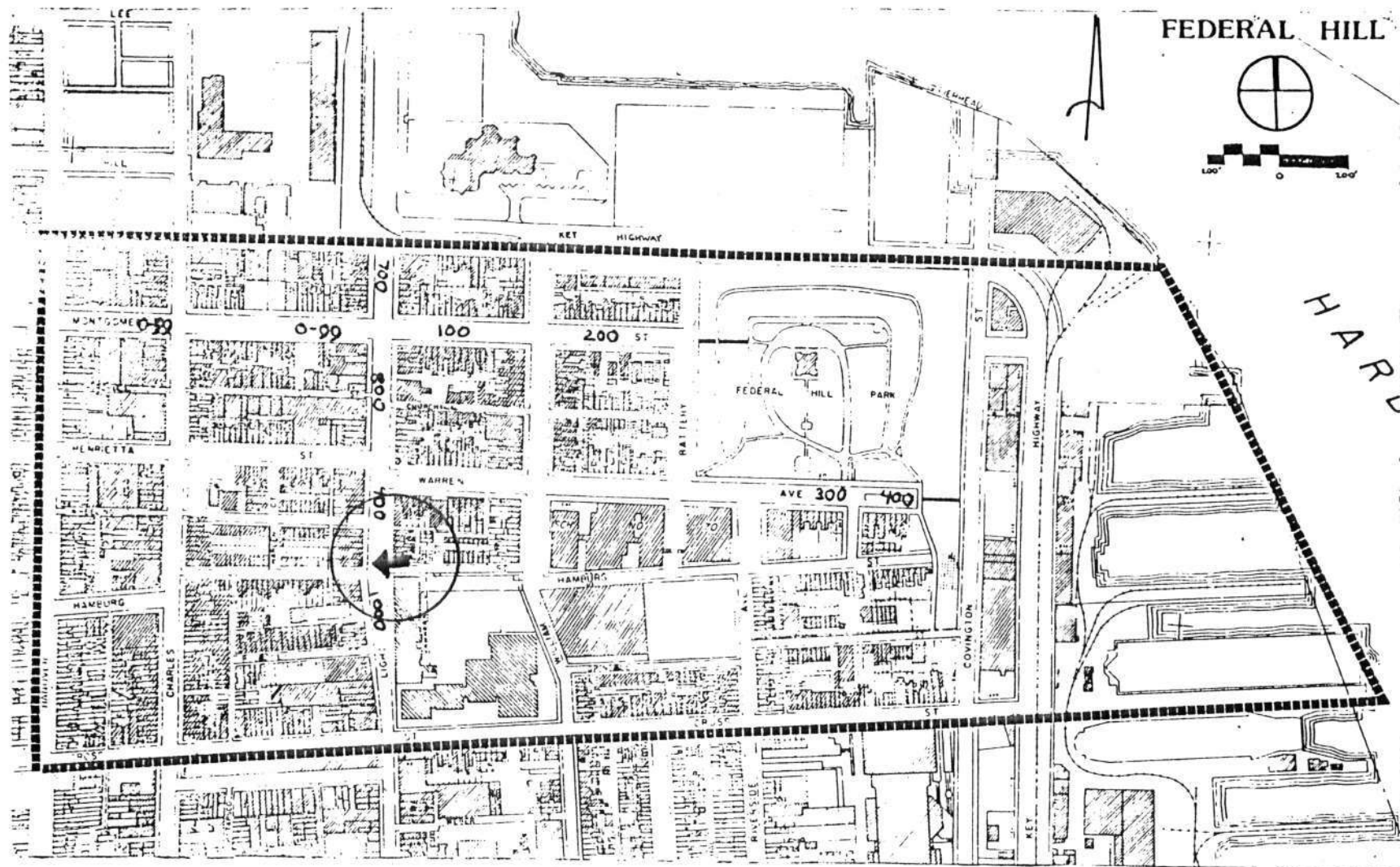
NPS Reviewer

B-3224





B-3224

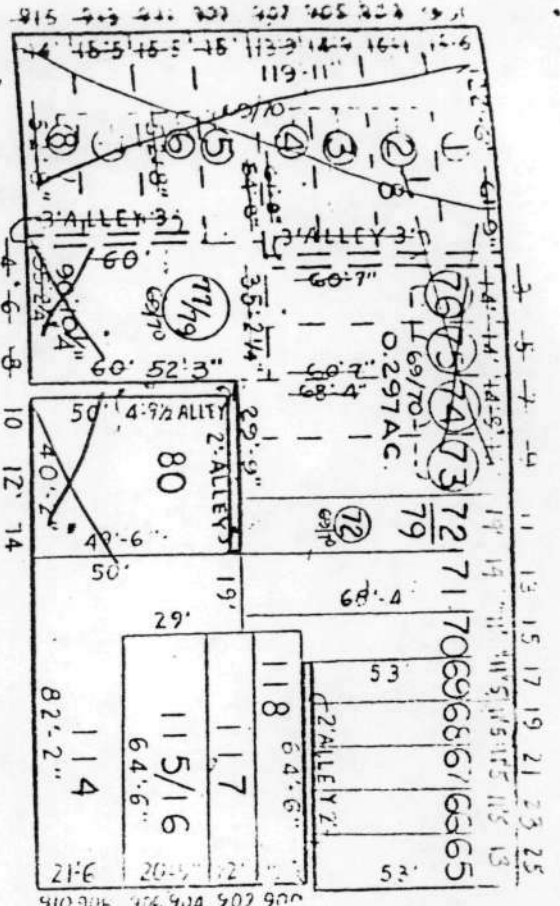


FEDERAL HILL NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT 4/17/70

426 LIGHT STREET  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND  
HARBOR LIGHT PARTNERSHIP  
AUGUST 1989

HENRIETTA

ST.



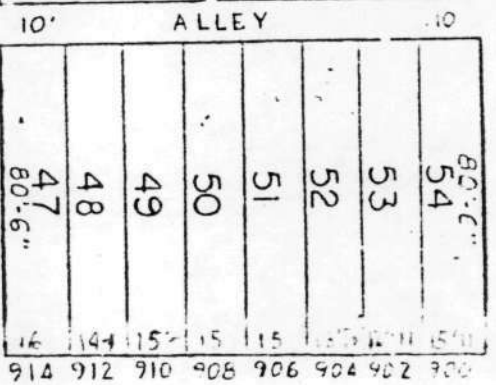
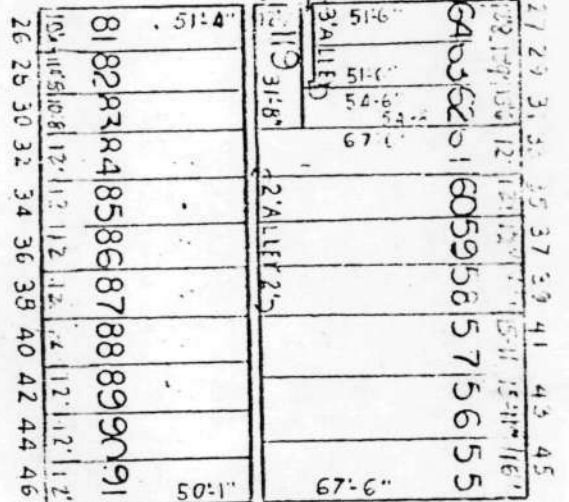
20'

WHEELING

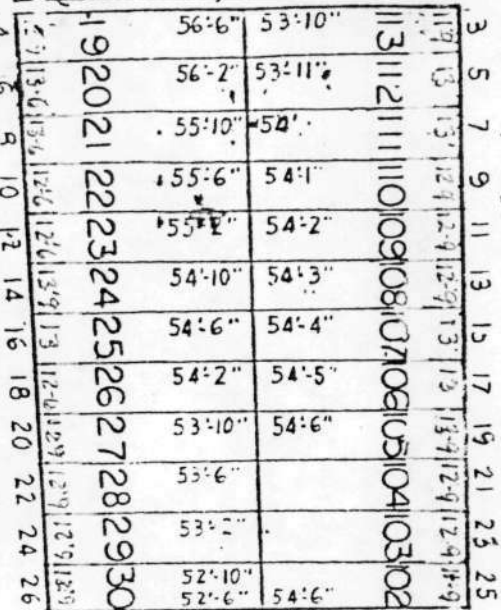
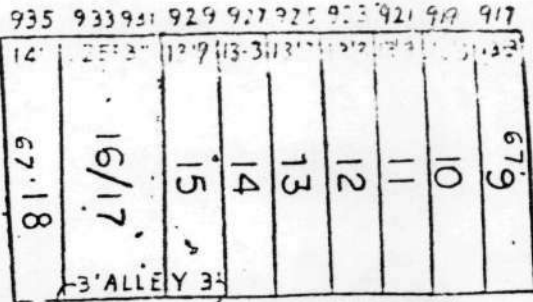
40'

25'

COURT

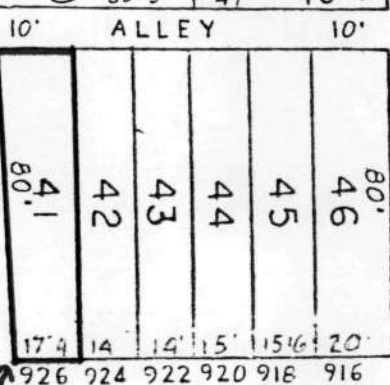
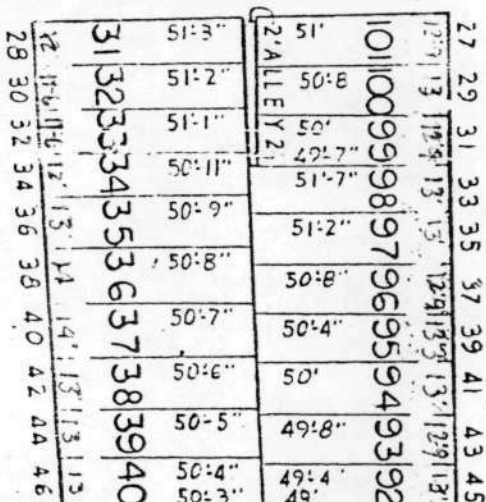


80'



HARDEN

20'



ST.

LIGHT

919

E. HAMBURG

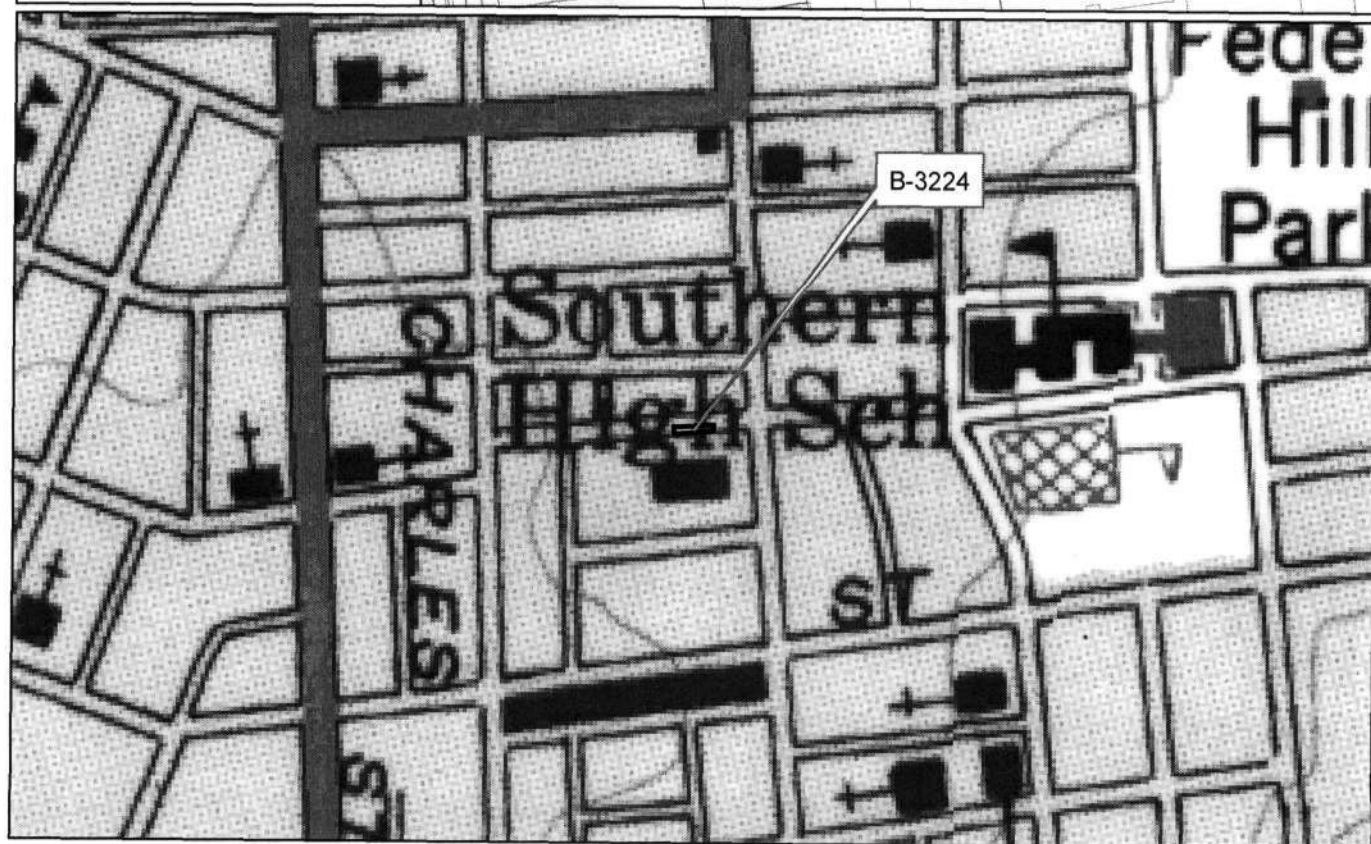
ST.

934-B

934-A

TAPSCO

B-3224  
926 Light Street  
Block 0918 Lots 041  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3224 926 Light St.

M.E.H. 4/79

South and east elevations